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A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Collectors of Kistna or West Godavari have recommended the amalgamation ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I did not catch the hon. Member's question."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Collectors of Kistna or West Godavari have written to the Government to the effect that the work is too light for each district and therefore the two districts should be amalgamated ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" No such recommendation has reached the Government."

Floods

Damages by floods in the Presidency.

* 213 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing—

(*a*) the havoc caused by floods in several places in the Presidency in 1928–29 and in 1929 up to the end of July in the form of loss of human lives, loss of cattle, collapse of houses and damage to crops ;

(*b*) the extent of charity relief afforded by Government or public bodies or by private individuals ;

(*c*) the advances of money given by Government as loans for re-building houses, for removing silt from fields and repairing damages to crops caused by floods ; and

(*d*) the remission of assessment that was made either wholly or partly ?

A.—(*a*) A statement is attached.[a]

(*b*) *Floods in the East Godavari and Vizagapatam districts.*—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the orders of the Government which were placed on the table of the House on 26th November 1928.

The Flood Relief Committee, Vizagapatam, spent a sum of Rs. 4,56 -8-1 on the supply of rice, cloths and house building materials. In addition, the Committee placed at the disposal of the Collector a sum of Rs. 2,000 for the provision of new house-sites. The East Godavari Central Flood Relief Committee also gave relief to persons affected by the floods by distributing cloths, blankets, implements, and so forth.

Floods in the West Godavari district.—A sum of Rs. 500 sanctioned by the Board of Revenue and a sum of Rs. 109 out of the Collector's discretionary grant were expended in relief.

Floods in the South Kanara district.—The Government are awaiting a further report from the Collector of the district.

Floods in the Malabar district.—The Collector reported on 24th July 1929 that there was no occasion for any special measures of relief. He had already requested the Board of Revenue to

a Printed as Appendix II on page 571 infra.

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increase his allotment under "Discretionary Grants by Collectors" in order that he might be able to give help to destitute persons for rebuilding their houses.

(*c*) No such loans were sanctioned by the Government. Collectors are competent to grant loans under the "Land Improvements Loans Act, and the Agriculturists Loans Act."

(*d*) Remission is granted by Collectors in accordance with the rules on the subject. The Government have no information as to the amount of assessment remitted by the Collectors of the districts affected by the floods.

The attention of the hon. Member is in this connexion invited to G.O. No. 9, Revenue, dated 3rd January 1929 (which has been published) in which orders have been passed by the Government for the grant of remission in respect of lands in the Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts which have been covered with sand or otherwise rendered unfit for cultivation by the floods.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"May I know what amount has been sanctioned by the Collector or by the Government for the relief of distress in South Kanara ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"The figures given in the answer to clause (*b*) includes the amount of relief afforded by the Government."

Irrigation

Re-examination of the gauge discharge results in regard to Duvvaleru.

*214 *Q.*—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : With reference to the answer to question No. 539 answered on 12th October 1928 will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the re-examination of gauge discharge results in regard to Duvvaleru is complete ;

(*b*) whether the Superintending Engineer has examined the figures and submitted the preliminary report ; and

(*c*) if so, what the report is ?

A.—(*a*) The examination of the discharge results has been completed in the Chief Engineer's office.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Chief Engineer expects to receive the Superintending Engineer's report by the end of August 1929.

Extension of the benefit of the Mettur Irrigation work to the Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly districts.

*215 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what progress has been made

(*a*) in regard to the investigation of the proposals to extend the benefit of the Mettur Irrigation work to the Salem, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly districts and what action is being taken thereon ; and

(*b*) in the irrigation work up to the end of June 1920 ?